FAQs Pertaining the Statistical Analysis Requirements in the .1600 Rules For Section Portal

Why is the Solid Waste Section eliminating statistical analysis requirement from the rules?

Answer - After evaluating over 15 years of environmental data as it relates to statistical analysis the Solid Waste Section believes that the routine statistical analysis requirement has provided limited benefit, if any, in the detection of a contaminant release and therefore, has provided limited to no benefit to solid waste facilities, the public health or the environment.

Can solid waste management facilities continue to use statistical analysis to analyze environmental data?

Answer - The proposed rule change will not eliminate the use of statistical analysis to evaluate environmental data from solid waste management facilities. The proposed rules will eliminate the *requirement* to statistically analyze sample data from each semi-annual sampling episode. Facilities may still incorporate statistical analysis in their routine monitoring if they want. Statistical analysis may also be used for other things at a solid waste management facilities, including, evaluation of the existence of an offsite source of contamination, aid in determining "background" concentrations and the effectiveness of remediation.

Under the proposed rule changes is there any scenario where a facility will be in assessment monitoring but not in corrective action?

Answer – Yes. One scenario in which this would be possible is when a facility is in assessment monitoring but there are not exceedances of the groundwater protection standards at the compliance boundary.

Under the proposed rules when there is a 2L exceedance for an inorganic constituent such as a metal that is below the background, will a facility have to perform an Alternant Source Demonstration to show that the metal is naturally occurring?

Answer – No, not when the metal concentration is being compared to an unaffected background level.

Thank you for your questions and comments. They have helped us clarify many concerns and questions. Please feel free to contact Mark Poindexter at mark.poindexter@ncdenr.gov or 919-508-8513 if you have additional questions or comments.